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IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

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LESSON FOR DECEMBER 10

THE STORY OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

LESSON TEXT—Luke 10:25-37.

GOLDEN TEXT—Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.—Lev. 19:18.

PRIMARY TOPIC—Showing Kindness to a Stranger.

JUNIOR TOPIC—The Story of the Good Samaritan.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Being a Good Neighbor.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Who Is My Neighbor?

1. How to Inherit Eternal Life (vv. 25-28).

1. The Lawyer's Question (v. 29). "Lawyer" here means one versed in religious law—the Scriptures. This does not mean lawyer in our modern sense of that term. It would more nearly correspond to a theological professor. The lawyer's object was to trap Jesus—to induce Him to take such a stand as would weaken His influence as a teacher. He expected Jesus to set forth some new ceremonies which would conflict with or disparage the law.

2. Jesus' Question (v. 26). Though Jesus knew the motive of the lawyer He did not evade his question. He sent him to the law—the field which was familiar to him. He thus was robbed of his own weapon.

3. The Lawyer's Reply (v. 27). He made an intelligent answer declaring that the entire content of the law was embraced in love to God and man. This expresses the whole of human duty.

4. Jesus Reply (v. 28.) This straightforward answer went to the heart of the lawyer. Perfect love to God and man is truly the way of life. No man has yet had or can have such love. His sinful condition precludes its possibility. Man's failure to measure up to this requirement is his condemnation. The lawyer keenly felt this thrust. He was defeated on his own grounds and convicted of guilt.

II. Who Is My Neighbor (vv. 29-37).

1. The Lawyer's Question (v. 29). This question reveals the insincerity of the lawyer. Christ's answer had reached his conscience and now he seeks to escape the difficulty by asking a captious question. Lawyer-like he sought to get off by raising a question as to the meaning of words.

2. Jesus' Answer (vv. 30-37). Christ's reply more than answered the lawyer's question. In the parable of the Good Samaritan He makes clear who is a neighbor, and also what it means to be a neighbor, or what loving a neighbor means. Christ's answer had a double meaning. He not only made clear who is my neighbor, but made it clear that the lawyer was not playing the neighbor. He thus was convicted of not having been a neighbor.

[illegible] my neighbor? This destitute and wounded man left on the highway by the robbers is the man who needs [illegible] therefore, is the one who needs my help, whether he lives next door or on the outside of the world. Those who have the Spirit of Christ can see their neighbors on every hand. (2) What being a neighbor means. Our supreme concern should not be "Who is my neighbor?" but "Whose neighbor am I?" To be a neighbor is (a) to see those about us who need help (v. 33). Love is keen to discern need. We should be on the lookout for those in need of our help. (b) Have compassion on the needy (v. 33). Christ's compassion was aroused as He came into contact with those who were suffering and in need. All those who have His nature will be likewise moved. (c) Give to those in need (v. 34). Many are willing to give money to help the poor and needy, but are unwilling to personally minister to them. Many times the personal touch is more important than the material aid. We should give ourselves as well as our money. (d) Bind up wounds (v. 34). (e) Set the helpless ones on our beasts while we walk (v. 34). This is proof that love is genuine. Christians will deny themselves in order to have something to give to those who have need. This kind of sympathy is greatly needed today. (f) Bring to the inn and take care of the unfortunate (v. 34). Genuine love does not leave its service incomplete. Much Christian service is spasmodic, helps and then leaves a man to take care of himself. (g) Give money (v. 35). It costs a good deal to be a neighbor. Love is the most expensive thing in the world. It cost God His only Son. It cost Christ His life. May we go and do likewise!

Sense of Duty Pursues Us.

Daniel Webster said in a famous speech: "There is no evil which we cannot either face or flee from but the consciousness of duty disregarded. A sense of duty pursues us ever. It is omnipresent like the Deity. If we take to ourselves the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; duty performed or duty violated is still with us for our happiness, or for our misery. If we say that the darkness shall cover us, in the darkness as in the light our obligations are still with us. We cannot escape their power, nor fly from their presence. They are with us in life, and will be with us at its close." And what is all that but the realization of the personal presence of God everywhere and under all circumstances.

Blessed Assurance.

Because he hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained, whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.—Acts 17:31.

When the Last Trump Sounds.

The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first.—I Thessalonians 4:16.

Such as I Love.

Such as I love, I rebuke and chastise. Be zealous, therefore, and do penance.—Apocalypse 3:19.

Doing Nothing.

Doing nothing with a deal of skill.—Cowper.

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BIG JUMP IN DRY LAW VIOLATIONS

Attorney General Daugherty Reports 35,000 Arrests

FOUR TIMES AS MANY OTHERS

Population Of Government Prisons For Same Period Increased From 5,268 To 6,395—Recommendations.

Washington.—The widespread extent of prohibition law violators, which has caused concern to President Harding and Cabinet, was revealed in the annual report to Congress of Attorney-General Daugherty.

Approximately 35,000 persons were arrested by the Federal Government for violation of the national prohibition law during the last fiscal year, according to the report. Civil cases prosecuted by the Government during the same time numbered 2,157.

These criminal and civil actions, however, represent only a small part of all the arrests made in the United States for the same period. Nearly four times as many more arrests were made by local, county and State officials for violation of State and local dry statutes, it was estimated.

Federal officials convicted 22,749 persons in criminal cases and secured a total of $120,000 in judgments in the civil suits.

The population of the Federal prisons for the same period increased to 6,395, compared with 5,268 for the last fiscal year, Heber H. Votaw, brother-in-law of President Harding and Superintendent of Prisons, reported. The increase was held due largely to increased violation of the Anti-Drug act, counterfeiting and violation of the postal laws.

White slavery is on the decrease, William J. Burns, head of the bureau of information of the department, reported. A total of 1,885 years in prison was imposed on the 3,526 persons convicted for white slavery, Burns stated. Fines totaled $386,743.

Practically all organized white slave gangs have been broken up, with their members either in jail or in hiding in foreign countries, Burns reported.

Attorney-General Daugherty recommended to Congress the enactment of a law to prevent the sending of threatening letters through the mails. This recommendation, it was indicated, is designed to curb the activities of certain secret societies which send warnings through the mails before resorting to floggings and other terroristic tactics.

Other recommendations made by Daugherty include:

A law to make it a crime to kill a Federal officer engaged in serving or executing a process. The present law simply makes it a crime to assault, beat or wound a Federal officer.

A law to make it a crime for a single individual to defraud, or attempt to defraud, the United States.

To increase the statute of limitation for criminal prosecution in bankruptcy cases from one to three years.

To increase the allowance of Department of Justice officials when traveling on business from $4 and $5 per day to $6 and 7. The high cost of living makes this necessary, Daugherty holds.

AVIATORS DIE IN PLANE CRASH.

Bomber Collides With Fokker Above Langley Field.

Langley Field, Va.—Six army aviators were killed here when a Martin bombing plane carrying four enlisted men and an officer, and a Fokker plane, which had just taken off the ground, collided about 200 feet in the air.

The dead are:

Major Guy L. Gerhardt.

Capt. L. A. Doyle, of San Francisco.

Sergt. Arthur Marsick, of Cleveland, Ohio.

Private Leon Rolas, of Philadelphia.

Private Felix Blumka, of Chicago.

Private Tom Jordan, of Deepstep, Georgia.

Washington Gets Report.

Washington.—Six army aviators were killed at Langley Field, Virginia, in a collision between a Fokker airplane and a Martin bomber, according to a report to the Army Air Service.

The report to the Air Service said Major Guy L. Gerhardt was flying the Fokker plane and Capt. Benton A. Doyle and four enlisted men were in the bombing plane. The two ships came together with a crash in midair, killing all of the occupants.

LIGHTEN PRESIDENT'S BURDENS.

Turn Local Appointments Over To The C. S. C.

Washington.—Chief Justice Taft suggested in an address before the annual convention of the National Civil Service Reform League that the President be given the power to make appointments to all local offices without Senate confirmation.

This would be of great assistance to the President, Mr. Taft said, because he could, by executive order, turn the entire burdensome task over to the Civil Service Commission.

"NOBODY" HANGS HIMSELF.

Was Fully Dressed, But Had On No Shoes.

Philadelphia.—Fully clad but barefooted, an unidentified man, about 35 years old, hanged himself in his room here. He scribbled the following note in pencil on a sheet of wrapping paper: "When a man gets so he can't do his work right, it is time for him to get off the earth. I am sick of living. May name is Nobody."

PENNSY TRACKMEN RAISED

Approximately $1,800,000 Annually For 30,000 Men.

Chicago.—Wage increases totaling approximately $1,800,000 annually for 30,000 maintenance of way employes of the Pennsylvania Railroad System have been granted, John G. Rodgers, vice-president of the northwestern region of the Pennsylvania, announced. The increases ranged from one cent an hour for car painters, painters and masons' helpers to five cents an hour for assistant bridge and building foremen and will be retroactive to November 1.

MELLON PROPOSES SURTAX REDUCTION

Would Increase Returns, Argues Secretary of Treasury

50 PER CENT. CUT URGED

Cities Figures As Proof—Over $300,000 Incomes Reported Decreased, Though Total Returns Increased.

Washington.—Reduction of the maximum income surtax rate from the present 50 per cent. to not more than 25 per cent. and the closing up so far as possible of existing avenue of escape from Federal taxes are urged by Secretary Mellon in his annual report, transmitted to Congress. No general revision of the revenue laws is proposed nor are additional taxes suggested, Mr. Mellon expressing the hope of meeting any indicated deficiency in the present deficit through collection of back taxes and income from other sources.

The Treasury Secretary informs Congress that to attempt alone to stop the gaps through which there is an avoidance of tax payments to the Government will not be enough because the existing rates of surtax "put such heavy pressure on the larger taxpayers to reduce their taxable incomes," that new ones would surely be found. He adds that the high rates "sound productive," but that the fact remains they are becoming increasingly ineffective and are yielding less and less revenue each year.

To support his argument that the high surtaxes gradually are "defeating their own purpose," he calls attention that while net incomes of all classes during the period from 1916 to 1920 increased from $6,298,577,620 in 1916 to $23,735,629,183 in 1920, and the number of returns from 437,038 in 1916 to $7,259,944 in 1920, the number of returns of incomes over $300,000 decreased during the same period from 1296 in 1916 to 396 in 1920, and the amount of incomes over $300,000 from $992,972,986 in 1916 to $246,354,585 in 1920.

Then bluntly he tells Congress the time has come to "face the facts squarely" and to correct the artificial conditions which now prevail and which, he asserts, are not wholesome from the point of view of business or industrial development, and at the same time are impairing the revenues of the Government.

FASCISTI WARN COMMUNISTS.

Will Administer Clubbings Instead Of Jail Sentences.

Rome.—Criminals will be clubbed and sent to hospitals instead of being imprisoned, in the administration of justice under the Fascisti regime in the province of Allessandria, Dr. Ramindo Sala, the secretary, said in an address to malefactors summoned before him.

"Hereafter the Fascisti undertake the administration of justice, adopting different laws from those of the judicial authorities," Dr. Sala said. "Whatever is guilty will not be sent to prison, but to the hospital—after being clubbed."

After this warning the criminals, including murderers, thieves, forgers and blackmailers, filed before Dr. Sala, who took their names and addresses and asked whether they were unemployed. If so, he promised to find them work.

KEMALISTS REFUSE REQUEST.

Will Not Permit Greek Ships To Take Refugees.

Angora.—The Kemalist Government has refused to grant the request transmitted by the American naval authorities that Green ships be permitted to enter Black Sea ports to embark Christian refugees, of whom there are fifty thousand, distributed among Samsun, Trebizond, Sinope and Ineboli. It is declared that unless Allied ships evacuate the refugees within a week they will be deported into the interior.

OFFERS 7 PER CENT. BEER BILL.

Washington. — Another prohibition modification measure was introduced in the House by Representative O'Brien (Democrat), New Jersey, who proposed to legalize the sale of beer of less than 7 per cent. alcohol by volume and other beverages of less than 15 per cent. Saloons would be barred under the bill.

GENERAL PAPOULAS RELEASED.

Former Greek Commander-In-Chief Exonerated.

Athens.—General Papoulas, former commander-in-chief of the Greek Army and one of those arrested by the revolutionary committee in connection with the Greek military disaster in Asia Minor, has been liberated.

General Frangos, who commanded the Greek troops on the Island of Mytelino, off the Smyrna coast, also was given his freedom on parole because of ill health.

THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL MESSAGE

Addresses Joint Session of Congress on Many Subjects

PLANS A "DRY" PARLEY

Volstead Repeal Forecast—Thinks The Nation Should Adapt Itself To The Changing Conditions.

Washington.—President Harding delivered his annual message to Congress in person. The message deals with nearly a score of subjects, chief among them prohibition, farm credits, the transportation problem, child labor and immigration.

Again and again the President was applauded as he outlined his recommendations to the Senate and House members assembled in joint session in the hall of the House. His hearers responded particularly to his discussion of rural credits and the Americanization of aliens.

There was a craning of necks when the President launched into his discussion of prohibition enforcement, and one of his declarations on the subject—that suggesting that rigorous and literal enforcement of the "dry" law would concentrate public attention on any requisite modifications—was applauded.

The Executive announces his purpose to invite the Governors of the States and Territories to an early conference with the Federal executive authority with a view to adopting definite policies of national and State co-operation in administering the prohibition laws. He says the day is unlikely to come when the prohibition amendment will be repealed and that the nation should adapt its course accordingly.

President Harding tells Congress that if the statutory provisions for prohibition enforcement are contrary to deliberate public opinion, which he does not believe, the rigorous and literal enforcement will concentrate public attention on any requisite modification.

"Such a course," he adds, "conforms with the law and saves the humiliation of the Government and the humiliation of our people before the world and challenges the destructive forces engaged in widespread violation, official corruption and individual demoralization."

With regard to the transportation problem, Mr. Harding proposes that the Railroad Labor Board be abolished with the substitution of a labor division in the Interstate Commerce Commission with ample power to require its rulings to be accepted by both parties to a disputed question.

The executive also proposes that the law require the carriers and their employees to institute means and methods to negotiate between themselves their constantly arising differences, limiting appeals to the Government body to disputes of such character as are likely to affect the public welfare.

Co-ordination of all transportation facilities is urged by the President. These would include not only inland waterways, but motortruck transportation as well. He inveighs against the system of paralleling the railroads with truck roads, thus drawing freight from the steam lines, instead of making the motortruck a feeder for them. As to the carriers themselves, Mr. Harding suggests as ways of increased economy and efficiency there by a merger of lines into systems, interchange of freight cars, the consolidation of facilities and the economic use of terminals. He declared that the managers of the lines are "without that intercarrier co-operative relationship "so highly essential to the best and most economical operation," adding that they could not function in harmony when the recent strike threatened the paralysis of all railway transportation.

More extended credit for the farmers is strongly urged by the executive, who declares that the very proof of helpfulness already given is the strongest argument for the permanent establishment of widened credits. He says the Farm Loan Bureau may well have its powers enlarged to provide ample farm production credits as well as enlarged land credits.

Two Constitutional amendments are proposed. One would give Congress authority over child labor and the other would restrict the issues of tax exempt securities, which are declared to be "drying up the sources of Federal taxation and encouraging unproductive and extravagant expenditures by States and municipalities."

Enactment of legislation providing for registration of aliens and for more thorough examination of emigrants at the ports of embarkation is urged. The President says there is a "recrudescence of hyphenated Americanism which we thought to have been stamped out when we committed the nation, life and soul, to the World War," and adds that advocates of revolution are abusing the hospitality of American shores, "finding their deluded followers among those who take on the habiliments of an American without knowing an American soul."

CHAPLIN REPORTED MARRIED.

They Had Planned Their Wedding For January.

New York.—Instead of waiting till January, Charlie Chaplin and Pola Negri, German actress, are already married, according to an intimation from Hollywood received here by friends of the couple. How long they had been married, if the ceremony had actually taken place, none of these acquaintances were prepared to state.

Registration of aliens, the President adds, will enable the nation to guard against abuses in immigration, checking the undesirable whose irregular coming is his first violation of the law and at the same time will facilitate the needed Americanizing of those who mean to enroll as citizens.

Dealing with foreign affairs, Mr. Harding tells Congress that American relations are not only free from every threatening cloud but the country has contributed its "larger influence" toward making armed conflict less likely.

"It has been our fortune both to preach and promote international understanding," he adds. "We are cognizant of the world's struggles for full readjustment and rehabilitation, and we have shirked no duty which comes of sympathy, or fraternity, or highest fellowship among nations. Every obligation consonant with American ideals and sanctioned under our form of government is willingly felt."

The President began his address by calling the attention of Congress to general world conditions, which he said still were seriously disturbed as a result of the war. He asserted that "the inevitable readjustment of the social and economic order is not more than barely begun.

WORLD'S LARGEST WHEAT POOL.

Agency To Handle 100,000,000 Bushels Annually.

Minneapolis.—The largest co-operative wheat sales agency in the world, which, according to its organizers, will handle 100,000,000 bushels in its first year, was formed here at a meeting of six co-operative organizations representing 10 States.

The new organization is known as the American Wheat Growers' Association and was formed at a meeting of trustees of the Northwest Wheat Growers' Association, representing five States, and the trustees of five other co-operative bodies, representing five other States. Headquarters of the new association probably will be located in either Minneapolis or Kansas City, it was said.

DOGS MUST BE VACCINATED.

Epidemic Of Rabies Leads To Strict Precautions.

Morgantown, W. Va.—All dogs in Morgantown must be vaccinated against rabies under a proclamation to be issued within a few days by City Manager A. A. Hall, he announced.

During the last week six persons have been bitten by infected dogs and patrolmen have killed a score of the animals suffering from the disease. The situation became so alarming that the city manager ordered a supply of vaccine, and his proclamation will provide that all dogs must be vaccinated within 10 days after the supply is received.

In addition to vaccination, dogs must be muzzled, and even when muzzled they must be held in leash by the owners while on the streets.

SOCIALIST MAYOR BEATEN.

Defeated By Shoe Manufacturers' Association Candidate.

Haverhill, Mass.—Parkman B. Flanders, Socialist Mayor for the last two years, who was opposed for re-election by "the Shoe Manufacturers' Association on the ground that a Socialist would injure the city's business reputation, was defeated by Dr. William McFee.

The whole ticket of the Citizens' Committee, which had the support of the Shoe Manufacturers' Association, defeated the ticket supported by the Shoe Workers' Protective Union.

So great was the interest in the election that some invalids left their beds and were taken to the polls during a snowstorm, Dr. McFee led his opponent by 2,341 votes.

TIERNAN BOBS UP AGAIN.

Will Try "To Get On His Feet" In New York.

New York.—John P. Tiernan, former member of the faculty of Notre Dame University, whose recent martial affairs held public interest, has arrived in New York "to get on his feet," and will remain in seclusion for some time, relatives announced.

Peter Tiernan, his brother, declared the Tiernan family wanted to give John a chance to "get straight with himself," and that they would help him.

BERLIN TO PAY ALLIED FINES.

Central Government Avoids Row With Bavaria.

Berlin.—The German Government, it is announced, has abandoned the idea of arbitrating with the Bavarian Government the question of satisfying the Entente for the recent attacks on Allied military control officers in Ingolstadt and Passau.

The Central Government has decided to pay the fines levied upon the two Bavarian cities by the Allies, thus averting any untoward consequences of the Rhineland.

HILL LOSES FIRST ROUND.

Attack On Prohibition Appropriation Fails.

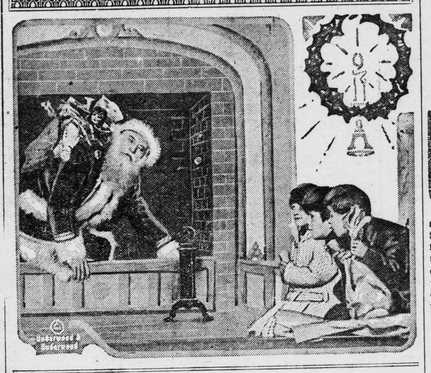
Washington.—During a "wet" and "dry" fight in the House Representative Hill (Republican), of Maryland, failed in several attempts to amend the section of the Treasury supply bill carrying $9,000,000 for prohibition enforcement.

LARGEST MAIL TERMINAL.

Postoffice Announces Early Opening In Chicago.

Washington.—The Postoffice Department said that in a few weeks it would have in operation in Chicago the world's largest mail terminal. Occupation of the terminal, which is two blocks long and six stories high, will be completed some time after the Christmas holidays. The terminal adjoins Union Station.

HE CLIMBED RIGHT DOWN THE CHIMNEY



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Jacques Christmas

By Eleanor E. King

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A BLIZZARD was brewing. Little cutting pieces of snow were being blown in whirls around corners and down the street. Huddled down in his coat stood a newsboy of some eight or nine years. His face was drawn with the cold and he beat his hands against his sides to keep them warm.

Last-minute Christmas shoppers, hurrying along to get their various errands done, gave no thought to the little fellow who pestered them with his papers. He ought to have known better when they had so many things to think about.

"Yeh, all the news—the latest news. Won't cha buy one, mister? I only have a couple more." He looked up pleadingly into the face of a passer-by.

"Sorry, sonny," smiled the man," got one here now that I probably won't ever get a chance to read—so busy," and he hurried along his way.

The rush of pedestrians subsided a moment. The boy sniggled out a young woman, as he said, "She looks kind. I'll try her."

"Yeh—all the latest news—just out—won't cha buy one, please, lady? I only have a few."

She opened her purse and started to hunt for the money.

"I've just got to sell these papers out early tonight, 'cause it's my last chance to buy that doll. You know, my little sister, they say, isn't very well, and the only thing she says she wants is an orange for Christmas, but I know better." He paused for breath. "She wants a doll, but she thinks she can't ask for it 'cause we haven't money for dolls. I have, though," he said promptly. "I've been watching

She Opened Her Purse.

a doll in one of the windows here. I'm going by tonight and get it."

"What is your name, son?"

"Jacques and my sister's—ma petite soeur—Marthe."

"Zounck!—What a queer—"

"No; it isn't," he said, anticipating what she was going to say. "My mother is French. Those names are beautiful—to us," he added after a pause.

"Where do you live, Jacques?"

"Sixty-nine Kensington Square. Top floor, back two rooms, I've got that down pat now, haven't I?"

"Yes, you won't get lost right soon," she replied as she put her arm around him, and gave him a gentle tap on the shoulder. "Merry Christmas, Jacques," and she was on her way. She stopped a little way down the street, however, wrote something down, then hurried on.

Another half hour found Jacques hugging an orange and a little doll under his coat as he trudged along home. When he opened the door a little voice started chanting, "Frere Jacques, Frere Jacques—you're late tonight."

"Yes, Marthe. Today I was talking to Santa on the corner, and he said he was awfully busy. He doubted if he would get all around this year."

"Oh!" said Marthe in a disappointed tone.

Jacques' mother was sewing busily upon a garment she was intent upon finishing. Tomorrow was Christmas, and no sewing was going to be left over to bother her.

Marthe's bedtime came, and Jacques fixed his presents in preparation for

His Mother Was Just as Excited as He.

the morrow. He had found a Christmas tree branch in the street, and this he made into a little tree under which he placed his gifts.

Christmas morning dawned brightly in the little French home. Jacques' surprise was complete, for Marthe went into raptures over the tree and her presents. She alternately hugged and kissed her doll, keeping up a constant chatter to it in French. The orange and a few other presents that she had found under the tree she put on the shelf, so that she could admire them while she rocked her doll.

Jacques had had his surprise, too—"Give and it shall be given unto you"—for his two packets under the tree had grown to be six or seven.

"Mother," he said, "I think I will have to try my new mittens and see exactly how warm they are." So saying, he slipped into his coat and pushed on the door. What ailed it? Was it frozen shut, stuck, or what was the matter?

With his mother's help the door was opened. To their surprise they found that a huge pile of packages had been the cause of their trouble.

Jacques gave a cry of delight as he pounced upon the bundles. His mother was just as excited as he, as she helped carry in the stuff.

Then followed one of the happiest hours the family had ever known—whole two-dozen oranges and all sorts of wholesome food. Jacques' mother fairly wept with joy.

Santa remembered us after all, mother," said little Jacques, "and he left this note on one of my presents. Look, mother, it says:—

"I hope you will always be as thoughtful of your sister, Jacques. A Merry Christmas and a Bright and Happy New Year.

"SANTA CLAUS."

Filling for Tart Shells.

A good filling for tart shells, made from left-over pie crust, can be made of shredded pineapple, sweetened, topped with stiffly beaten white of an egg.

The Snow Fairy

By Martha B. Thomas

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I DON'T suppose two noses were ever pressed more forlornly against a window-glass than those belonging to Jerry and Sally. If you were to look at them from the outside, in their front yard, for instance, they would not seem like noses at all; you would say that Jerry and Sally had small, white pears on their faces, and pretty squashed pears at that! This is what a window-glass does to two children who have the whooping cough and are standing as closely as possible against the nearest thing to getting out—a window.

Jerry dug his fists down into his pockets and looked as cross as a bear. Sally blinked very fast to keep the tears from rolling down her cheeks, and her two pigtails quivered unhappily.

"We'll miss the party and the games and the goodies . . . and everything!" she wailed.

"I don't care about the old party!" declared Jerry scornfully. "What I

"I Call It a Shame!"

want is to get out and make a snowman. Look at all this perfectly good snow going to waste! I call it a shame!" And you would have thought by his tone that all blizzards were invented for the express purpose of giving little boys the opportunity of playing in it.

"Mary Randall's going to wear her new pink dress and her slippers!" sniffed Sally. "And I have a red dress and new slippers too-o-o!" This last thought was almost too much, and one large tear did manage to tumble over and down her cheek. Jerry pretended not to see it. Perhaps he was having trouble with his own eyes, though of course boys never cry, not even when tomorrow's Christmas and everything is spoiled because of whooping cough.

"Mother said we should have to have a party by ourselves and make believe that lots of people came to it," said Sally.

Jerry grunted. He didn't care much for this make-believe stuff—too sissified. "Let's sit down in front of the open fire," suggested Sally, "and tell stories. I'm tired of looking out of the window. Perhaps something nice will happen; who can tell?"

So the two children settled themselves in front of the fire. They drew up two low stools and they each sat with their elbows on their knees and their chins in their hands. It was very warm and cosy. The logs crackled and sputtered as though they were doing their best to cheer other people up, and the dancing flames had a regular parade up and down the wood. It was late afternoon and growing a little dark.

Suddenly Sally's pigtails stuck out straight behind her in surprise.

"What's that?" she whispered, and her eyes were big as saucers.

"Where?" asked Jerry, a little startled too.

"I saw something white flit in at the door!"

"So did I."

The children looked cautiously around. Nothing was to be seen.

Just an ordinary room, a bright fire and two children in front of it.

"Funny—" mused Sally.

There was the faintest rustle by the clock on the mantel. It sounded like snowflakes talking together.

"There! I heard something again!" said Sally.

Both children stared at the clock, for that was where the sound came from.

It was quite dark by this time, except for the light from the logs, so it was natural that Jerry and Sally did not at first see the little person perched on the edge of the mantel.

"How do you do?" asked a tiny voice. It tinkled like a fairy sleigh-bell.

"Mercy!" exclaimed Sally.

Jerry just winked his eyes very fast.

"Here I am up by the clock," tinkled the voice again.

And sure enough, there she was indeed! The children saw her now. A wee, slender bit of a thing about the size of a sweet pea. And she was the whitest creature you could imagine. Snowflake ruffles with crystal trimming, icicle jewels in her hair, and eyes bright and frosty as stars.

Jerry and Sally gasped. Sally wanted to jump up and hug her. But you can't do that with a Snow Fairy; she'd melt all to pieces in your fingers, and then where would you be?

"I have come to pay you a little call," laughed the fairy, "because I like to talk with children who are ill and can't go out. I just came from a house down the street where a baby is cutting a tooth. Such a cunning baby! I played hide and seek under its chin, and you should have heard him gurgle! He forgot all about that tooth that was making so much fuss about coming through. I left him kicking up his heels and crowing like a young rooster."

Sally and Jerry laughed.

"Shall I dance for you?" asked the Snow Fairy politely.

"Oh, yes!" beseeched the children.

Up jumped the white little person, and in the twinkling of an eye she had begun. The children never saw such dancing in their lives. Never!

The Snow Fairy pirouetted on top of the clock; she whirled like a crystal prism. She jumped down and made a low bow to a china shepherdess, and then the shepherdess threw away her crook and danced with the fairy. Away they went, whirling and bobbing and turning and dipping. They jumped over vases; they pecked out behind pictures, they fairly flew through the air until you could not tell which was the Snow Fairy and which the china shepherdess.

Jerry and Sally clapped their hands and laughed until they could laugh no longer. They forgot all about parties and new slippers and making snowmen.

Then the strangest thing happened. They could not see the Snow Fairy at all. She wasn't there, and if you'll

Away They Went.

believe me, the china shepherdess was standing stiffly in her old spot as though she'd never had a thought of moving in her life.

"Dear me!" said Sally rubbing her eyes.

"Dear me!" said Jerry, rubbing his.

Mother came in soon after that. She stood smiling down upon them.

"Both you children were sound asleep on your stools when I was in here before. Do come and have something good to eat. I have a little party all ready for you."

And Sally and Jerry never said a word about the Snow Fairy. But they were as cheerful as cherubs the rest of the day.

For Chess Fans.

Pocket chess sets for traveling or camping would make a novel and acceptable gift for the friend who is a chess fan. This miniature chess set fits into a coat pocket and sells for a reasonable price.

Our Christmas

WHEN the shades of evening gather
And the Christmas time is here,
And you go home from your labor
To enjoy the Christmas cheer—
When the Christmas tree is lighted
And the children gather 'round,
There is one thing must be present
If the greatest joy is found.

There must be inner conscience
Telling you with truthful voice
That you've done something for someone
That will help that one rejoice—
Some poor stranger, widow, orphan,
Someone that you did not cove.
Ah, the gift need not be costly,
To relieve another's woe.

And the greatest gift at Christmas
That a person e'er received
Was to know that through his efforts
Someone's suffering was relieved;
For the Master, on whose birthday
All the Christmas gifts are given,
Will see that act and send to him
A Christmas gift from heaven.
—Thomas G. Andrews in Kansas City Star.

USE OF THE CHRISTMAS STOCKING

Custom Comes From Sunny Italy Where Poor First Used Long Knitted Purses.

THE custom of hanging up stockings on Christmas Eve comes to us from a land far across the ocean — from sunny Italy.

In the city of Padua, long ago, good old St. Nicholas used to go about the streets after dark and throw through the windows of the homes of the poor people long knitted purses, tied at both ends, and containing much needed coins. These purses were made of yarn, and when untied looked not unlike a footless stocking.

Finally, as time went on, the poor people, hoping thus to remind the more fortunate of their needs, used to hang these empty purses out of the windows on the night before Christmas, so that a gift might be placed in them.

In the north country, where the weather is cold at Christmas time, the purses were hung by the chimney place in the hope that St. Nicholas would drop his offering down the chimney.

When the purses went out of fashion stockings as the thing most like them were used in their stead, and that is why we today still observe the practice and the custom.

We're Sure She Can.

"Well, Princessa, did Santa Claus fill your stocking?"

"Not literally, of course, but he left me a dozen perfectly stunning pairs which I am confident of being able to fill myself."

PEACOCK PIE A CHRISTMAS DISH

Gaily Plumed Bird Formerly One of the Principal Delicacies at Yuletide Feasts.

CHICKEN pie, beefsteak pie, and pumpkin pie, not forgetting apple pie and cheese, the great American institution—all of these have a familiar ring to our ears, but who of us has ever tasted the famous English dainty of dainties, peacock pie? Yet at one time, this was a favorite Christmas dish which was brought in with a great deal of ceremony by the lady, most distinguished in all the company for beauty and high position. Many times this dish was garnished with the head and tail of the peacock in such a way as to appear that the bird was alive. Knights made vows over it to break spear in defense of beauty and distress. It was this ceremony which gave rise to the once popular oath "by cock and pie."

Probably the use of the peacock pie as a Christmas dish arose from the old belief that the flesh of the peacock is incorruptible which of course would make it a symbol of immortality and new life.

To the people of today the peacock is a symbol of vanity.

Sausages in Potatoes.

Prepare some hot mashed potatoes, fry a pound of sausages, mold the potatoes around each sausage, baste with butter and brown in the oven. Use the broiler to brown, for it only takes a few minutes. Instead of heating the oven hot enough to brown them.

END